

Council of Regions Report

Salmon Recovery Funding Board

May 14, 2009

Prepared and submitted by COR representative, Steve Martin

COR will be meeting on meeting April 27th with the purpose of discussing COR mission, vision, and structure followed by an afternoon meeting with RCO and GSRO to discuss the process and outcomes for transitioning GSRO into the RCO. COR is strongly committed to working with the RCO and GSRO on the transition and to help ensure that the needs of all parties are understood and addressed to the extent practicable as we continue our working partnership.

The regional salmon recovery organizations completed their 2009-2011 proposed scope of work and operating budgets in April and submitted them to GSRO and RCO for review and transmittal to the SRFB. This information package includes a Program Overview for each region. The Program Overview includes: (1) Operations Plan, (2) Performance Assessment, (3) Strategic Assessment, and (4) Performance Measures and Milestones. The Operations Plan provides accomplishments and upcoming priorities. The Performance Assessment is a self-evaluation of how the organization performed with respect to its 07-09 scope of work. The Strategic Assessment outlines what needs to be done, how it will be accomplished and challenges. The Performance Measures and Milestones provide a list of the major deliverables and dates. In addition to the Program Overviews, all regions developed a scope of work and budget which identify tasks, deliverables and milestones based on an 8% reduction from the 2007-2009 SRFB grants.

Recently, regional organizations took a leadership role across the State of Washington to identify projects, facilitate and coordinate the process to assist sponsors to apply for funding for salmon habitat projects for consideration through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). This unanticipated “new” funding opportunity was both a blessing and a challenge. The work had to be completed within roughly 30 days and required mobilization and coordination of partners and sponsors with unprecedented speed and urgency. The success with which regional salmon recovery projects were pulled together in a deliberate, disciplined and inclusive manner emphasizes the value of the statewide framework for salmon recovery plans and actions, and the value of maintaining our partnerships. These projects had to be “shovelready” in terms of design, costs, landowner support, permitting being in place or feasible within the time frame, and they had to be consistent with an approved salmon recovery plan. Implementation work plans provided the starting point, in most regions, for the projects that ended up on the list of project applications submitted by the state. The list of projects submitted for funding consideration, all of which were personally endorsed by Governor Gregoire, is attached.

Also, Columbia Basin regions are coordinating processes to identify completed, on-going, and future planned projects for funding as part of implementing the tributary habitat elements of the 2008 Federal Columbia River Power System (FCRPS) Biological Opinion. The regions’ implementation work schedules help to identify future projects and provide the detail necessary for commitment by the Action Agencies to habitat productivity increases needed to meet the federal agencies obligations under the 2008 FCRPS BiOp.

Sponsor	Project Name	Location	Description	Amount Requested
SNAKE RIVER SALMON RECOVERY REGION				
Columbia Rural Electric Association	Tucannon River Instream and Riparian Protection and Restoration	Tucannon River, Columbia County	Protect and restore riparian areas and floodplain by relocating overhead electric lines on a 7 mile priority reach	\$1,216,542
Walla Walla County Conservation District	Bergevin-Williams/Old Lowden (BWOL) Consolidation and Garden City Piping	Walla Walla River Watershed, Walla Walla County	Consolidate 2 points of diversion and pipe 15 miles of open ditch (Garden City, Old Lowden and Bergevin-Williams)	\$2,682,731
Walla Walla County Conservation District	Touchet River McCaw Reach Habitat Rehabilitation	Touchet River, Walla Walla County	Restore (increase length, install LWD, develop point bars and floodplain, and revegetate/ protect) approximately 0.5 miles of Touchet	\$726,465
Steve Martin, Executive Director, (509) 382-4115, steve@snakeriverboard.org			Snake River Total	\$4,625,738
YAKIMA (MIDDLE COLUMBIA RIVER REGION)				
Kittitas County Conservation District	Manastash Creek Restoration	Yakima River, Kittitas County	Provide fish screening and passage; enhance instream flow conditions in Manastash Creek. Consolidate 3 diversions into 1 and pipe from consolidated diversion back to water right holders. Also change earthen unlined ditch to pipe.	\$1,306,487
Kittitas Conservation Trust	Cle Elum River Flow and Habitat Restoration	Cle Elum River, Kittitas County	Construct two large engineered log jams in the Cle Elum River to deflect perennial flows into the Domerie side-channel, creating 2 stream miles of aquatic and riparian habitat.	\$521,150
Yakima County	Eschbach Park Levee Removal	Naches, Yakima County	Expand floodplain, allow river to re-enter avulsed channel with existing excellent riparian zone characteristics, increase side channel habitats, improve sediment transport; re-deck bridge in Eschbach Park to allow access; and install new Yakima Valley Canal Company headgate, also set back from the river 1100'.	\$644,000
So. Central WA Resource Conservation and Development Council	Reecer Creek Floodplain Project	Yakima River, Kittitas County	Create steelhead and salmon rearing habitat in Ellensburg's Reecer Creek, tributary to Yakima River at RM 153.7. Relocate currently diked creek into recontoured floodplain, revegetate habitat, add instream rock and woody debris, increase channel length. Existing dike will be set back to allow meander.	\$1,443,709
North Yakima Conservation District	Cowiche Creek Barrier Removal and Trust Water Project	Cowiche Creek, Yakima County	Eliminate irrigation diversion dam, eliminate need for fish screening at two points of diversion, build pressurized irrigation delivery system and stream gauging, and site restoration.	\$865,957
Yakama Indian Nation	Toppenish Creek Restoration	Toppenish Watershed, Yakima County	Restore part of Toppenish Creek altered by irrigation development that resulted in channel and floodplain disconnection, wetland habitat loss, fish passage barriers, channel incision, and groundwater depletion. This is phase two of a multi-year effort to remove irrigation infrastructure from Toppenish Creek, and restore natural functions of floodplain.	\$2,543,267
Alex Conley, Executive Director, (509) 453-4104, aconley@ybfwrp.org			Yakima Total	\$7,327,570
UPPER COLUMBIA SALMON RECOVERY REGION				
Colville Confederated Tribes	Bonaparte Creek Channel Rehabilitation and Legacy Park Habitat Improvements	Okanogan River Tributaries, Okanogan County	Reestablish natural channel to abate sediment transport and promote highway safety; remove invasive species and replant with natives; install education signs	\$625,910

Sponsor	Project Name	Location	Description	Amount Requested
Washington Rivers Conservancy	Restore Instream Flow Wenatchee Sub-basin	Wenatchee River, Chelan County	Upgrade Pioneer Water Users Association irrigation delivery system and change point of diversion (POD) from the Wenatchee River, near Monitor to new POD on Columbia River. Increase instream flow for Beaver Creek, tributary to the Wenatchee River. This is a source switch to completely eliminate a diversion, which will improve instream flow	\$3,389,950
Julie Morgan, Executive Director, (509) 662-4710, julie.morgan@ucsr.com			Upper Columbia River Salmon Region Total	\$4,015,860
LOWER COLUMBIA SALMON RECOVERY REGION				
Clark County	Lewisville Park Stream Habitat Enhancement	East Fork Lewis River, Clark County	Reconnect side-channels; instream habitat enhancement; bank stabilization and restoration	\$1,648,000
Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group	North Fork Lewis River Restoration Project	Lower North Fork Lewis River, Clark and Cowlitz Counties	Construct engineered log jams and other structures; remove culvert; reconnect existing channel; restore riparian habitat; stabilize banks; remove invasive plants	\$2,388,346
Clark County	East Fork Lewis River Floodplain Restoration	Lower East Fork Lewis River, Clark County	Restore floodplain function through levy removal, reconnecting floodplain parts, removing invasive weeds, and revegetating streambank and floodplain	\$1,628,000
Jeff Breckel, Executive Director, (360) 425-1555, jbreckel@lcfwb.gen.wa.us			Lower Columbia River Total	\$5,664,346
WASHINGTON COAST SALMON RECOVERY REGION				
Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition	Coastal Rivers Barrier Removal and Instream Habitat Improvement	Sol Duc Watershed, Camp Creek; and Hoh Watershed, Brandeberry Creek, Jefferson and Clallam Counties	Remove and replace an under-sized, perched 10 foot culvert with a 70 foot long bridge. Create instream habitat and reduce sediment through LWD	\$650,714
Clallam County Conservation District	Lake Ozette Forest Road Fish Passage Improvement	Lake Ozette Watershed, Clallam County	Eliminate or reduce sediment production and delivery from road surfaces through road abandonment and culvert replacements	\$1,266,674
Quinalt Indian Nation	Marine Debris Removal and Habitat Restoration Project	Quinalt Coastline, Grays Harbor County	Remove marine debris and derelict fishing gear from Quinalt and Queets River estuaries and QIN Reservation coast	\$1,303,892
Nancy Allison, Executive Director, (360) 289-2499, ext. 113, wcssp@coastaccess.com			Coast Salmon Recovery Region Totals	\$3,221,280
PUGET SOUND SALMON RECOVERY REGION				
Northwest Straits Marine Conservation Foundation	Derelict Gear	Puget Sound, San Juan, Island, Whatcom, Skagit, Snohomish, King, Pierce, Thurston, Mason, Clallam, Jefferson and Kitsap Counties	Remove derelict fishing gear from marine habitats of Puget Sound; Restore benthic habitat; eliminate a direct source of mortality to salmon and other marine species by removing derelict fishing nets from marine waters	\$4,776,055
Puget Sound Restoration Fund	On-the-ground Recovery of Pinto abalone, Olympia oysters and Bull kelp in Puget Sound	Puget Sound, San Juan, Pierce, Thurston, mason, Kitsap and Clallam Counties	Produce healthy, genetically diverse animals and plants for outplanting, and increase densities in the wild to stabilize and then build viable populations for the future.	\$1,680,850
Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association	South Fork Nooksack River and Tributaries Restoration Project	Nooksack Watershed, Whatcom County	Fish passage to 2.4 miles of upstream habitat; restored instream habitat along 3900 feet of stream channel; revegetation of 128 acres of riparian habitat; and improved salmonid productivity	\$540,000
Lummi Nation	Smuggler's Slough	Nooksack Watershed, Whatcom County	Reconnect Lummi and Nooksack River through the historic floodway of Smuggler's Slough. Project will initiate in-water work to enhance wetlands in preparation for levee and dike breaches	\$1,740,023
The Nature Conservancy	Fisher Slough Freshwater Tidal Marsh Restoration	Skagit Watershed, Skagit County	Install self-regulating floodgate, re-route a drainage canal, build setback levee, remove existing levee and restore marsh habitat features to restore stream and tidal processes and fish access to 60 acre site on the S. Fork Skagit River. Benefits will also include improved drainage and decreased flooding on surrounding farmland.	\$5,900,000

Sponsor	Project Name	Location	Description	Amount Requested
Seattle Public Utilities	Lower Tolt River Floodplain Reconnection Project	Snohomish Watershed, King County	Restore 40 acres of floodplain at the mouth of the Tolt River. Plant native riparian plants on other Tolt River Seattle-owned properties.	\$1,000,000
City of Issaquah	Issaquah Integrated Fish Passage	Lake Washington/ Cedar/ Sammamish Watershed, King County	Dam removal to restore unhindered adult fish passage of Chinook, coho, and other salmon to 10 miles of high quality upstream habitat and provide channel connectivity for other aquatic species. Remove Issaquah Fish Hatchery Intake Dam and replace with series of boulder weir structures and a new screened water intake structure located in a fish-passable channel constriction.	\$3,200,000
King County	Big Spring/Newaukum Stream and Wetland Restoration	Green/ Duwamish Watershed, King County	Relocate 2,800 lineal feet of Big Spring Creek from agricultural and roadside ditches to historic floodplain location. Restore floodplain functions and habitat in 80 acres of surrounding wetland currently dominated by Reed Canarygrass.	\$2,588,356
Duck's Unlimited	Nisqually Estuary Restoration	Nisqually Watershed, Thurston County	Restore 762 acres of salt marsh habitat. This is the highest priority restoration action in the Nisqually Basin, the largest marsh restoration project in Puget Sound, and will increase South Puget Sound salt marsh area by 50%.	\$6,800,000
Nisqually Indian Tribe	Mashel Eatonville Restoration Phase 2	Nisqually Watershed, Pierce County	This 2nd Phase of the project will continue the effort and built upon the very successful Phase 1 restoration project which was completed within the same reach of the river in 2007. The main focus of this project will be the construction of 11 additional log structures. This project will also continue the protection of riparian habitat, through purchases of easements and fee simple acquisitions in addition to reforestation of several acres. This phase will also capitalize on bank protection project that is underway by the WA DOT and the Tribe which includes the installation of 6 log structures to stop bank erosion and provide fish habitat. Combining the two efforts will expedite the permit process, bring cost savings, and result in a total of 17 new structures for 2009.	\$1,170,000
City of Olympia	Ellis Creek Fish Passage	Deschutes Watershed, Thurston County	Total replacement of a fish-barrier culvert at the mouth of a productive salmon stream with intact and protected upstream riparian areas.	\$1,500,000
Mason County	McLane Cove Estuary Reconnection	Kennedy/ Goldsborough Watersheds, Mason County	Remove existing blocking culvert restoring natural tidal flow into a small 1.5 acres pocket estuary. When reconnection occurs, forage and refuge provided for ESA-listed Puget Sound Chinook and winter Steelhead. Potential revegetation of the site by Mason County jail trustees.	\$525,000
Kitsap County	Chico Creek Instream Restoration	West Sound Watersheds, Kitsap County	Remove weirs blocking fish passage and restore habitat and floodplain for approximately 540 linear feet of creek. Also restores habitat and floodplain for approximately 200 linear feet of creek and provides bank stabilization downstream	\$1,975,000
Kitsap County	Carpenter Creek Estuary Restoration	West Sound Watersheds, Kitsap County	This project will restore over 30 acres of undeveloped habitat of the Carpenter Creek estuary, by removal of a tidal-restricting, undersized culvert. It will increase natural tidal hydrologic fluctuations (inundation and frequency) in sufficient quantities to restore and enhance the following functional ecosystem processes and habitats: Intertidal mudflats and salt marsh habitat Nearshore sediment delivery and transport, Barrier-free fish passage, Eelgrass and microalgae beds, Marine riparian and tidal-freshwater forests, Reduction of watershed/estuary/shoreline fragmentation, Protection of prey base, salmon feeding areas for state and federally endangered Orca Whales	\$2,702,522
Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group	Little Quilcene River Delta	Hood Canal Watersheds, Jefferson County	Remove approximately 8 acres of aggraded delta cone; Stream channel restoration of 1,800 feet; functional link between freshwater and saltwater physical processes; instream complexity via	\$1,111,732

Sponsor	Project Name	Location	Description	Amount Requested
			placement of wood enhancements in 1 mile of stream	
Mason Conservation District	Regional Riparian Successional Strategy Implementation	Hood Canal Watersheds, Clallam, Jefferson, Mason and Kitsap Counties	Inventory and removal of invasive species along anadromous streams in four counties: Clallam, Jefferson, Mason, and Kitsap	\$1,238,000
Skokomish Tribe	Skokomish Estuary	Hood Canal Watersheds, Mason County	Restore 214 acres of intertidal estuary and 2.42 miles of tidal river shorelines: obliterate levees, borrow ditches, and tidegates on Skokomish Estuary Island	\$1,752,078
Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe	Elwha Floodplain Bundled Package	North Olympic Peninsula Watersheds, Clallam County	Lower Elwha hatchery outfall & berm removal, Griff Creek culvert replacement, revegetation, exotic species removal, Elwha ELJ's	\$2,739,000
Clallam Conservation District	Dungeness River Streamflow Improvement	Dungeness Watershed, Clallam County	Approximately 13 miles of open irrigation canals will be replaced with buried pipelines to save an estimated 6 cubic feet per second (1,850 ac-ft/yr) of Dungeness River flows.	\$2,940,000
Tulalip Tribes	Qwuloot Estuary Restoration	Ebey Slough, Snohomish County	Restore historic tidal processes and functioning estuary intertidal marsh system to 350 acres of isolated floodplain. Restore natural hydrologic connection and functions to two stream systems and provide unrestricted access to 16 miles of upstream habitat. Remove levee, install setback levee, fill ditches, excavate stream and tidal channels and native riparian planting	\$4,142,413
Joe Ryan, Salmon Recovery Program Director, (206) 383-9887, joe.ryan@psp.wa.gov			Puget Sound Recovery Region Totals	\$50,021,029
Total Number of Projects		37	Overall Total	\$74,875,823